

During the epidemic of influenza, in the winter of 1918-'19, the Home Service Committee worked untiringly, helping at the Emergency Hospital, serving in the soup kitchen, visiting and carrying aid to many homes in which entire families were stricken with the disease.

Services to soldiers and sailors and their families were of a varied character. There was the mother of a soldier who, for several years, had needed a surgical operation, the expense of which she could not meet. The Home Service placed her in a hospital, and paid all of her hospital expenses, while Dr. Hubert A. Royster generously gave his professional services without compensation. In due time the soldier's mother returned to her home restored to health. Another soldier, who had just lost his wife when called to report for duty immediately, was compelled to leave his child in the care of strangers. A message was sent to the Home Service which, within a few hours, placed the child with relatives, arranged the soldier's affairs, and dispatched a telegram to him which sent him on his way rejoicing in the service of his country. The worthless husband of Mrs. A, who had never supported his family, enlisted at the beginning of the war, stating that he had no dependents. He left his wife with two small children to support. Application for aid to the Home Service resulted in securing work for her. With her compensation from her work, together with her allotment, she was getting along comfortably, when her husband, tiring of the service, applied for release alleging the necessity of supporting his family. The wife appealed to the Home Service to prevent his discharge since she was better off than she had been at any other time since her marriage. Many cases of tubercular patients came under the care of the Department. Illustrative of these cases is that of a soldier's dependent brother. The Home Service assumed charge of his case, erected a hut for him in the country, furnished him with every necessity, and thus enabled him to regain his health. There were many cases, too numerous to mention specifically, in which the Home Service furnished to soldiers on furlough without money, funds with which to return to their posts; or furnished funds sufficient to assist discharged soldiers in securing work. In many instances this money, furnished with no security save the soldier's promise, was repaid. A particularly important and delicate service, about which obviously but little can be said, was rendered by the department in befriending unfortunate young girls belonging to families of soldiers, whom the Home Service